

Simple Subjects

Teaching

The **simple subject** is the main word or words in the complete subject. Words that describe the subject are not part of the simple subject. In the following sentences, the simple subjects are underlined.

Athletes all over the world enjoy extreme sports.

COMPLETE SUBJECT

COMPLETE PREDICATE

If a proper name is used as the subject, all parts of the name make up the simple subject.

Dr. Evans at the sports clinic treats many sports injuries.

COMPLETE SUBJECT

COMPLETE PREDICATE

Identifying Simple Subjects

Underline the simple subject in each sentence.

1. Extreme sports are a new kind of entertainment.
2. Participants in these sports sometimes ignore the danger.
3. The athletes enjoy the great challenge in each sport.
4. Great skill is needed for mountain biking.
5. The rider travels down a high hill or mountain on a narrow track.
6. A cross-country biker follows a rough course over a long distance.
7. The position of the rider's body is very important in mountain biking.
8. Only brave swimmers use surfboards in giant waves.
9. A new extreme sport is body surfing.
10. The body surfer rides the waves without a board.
11. Both arms of the body surfer must be extended in front.
12. The feet must be together.
13. Body surfers on a wave dive underwater as they get close to the beach.
14. Another popular ocean sport is body boarding.
15. Regular surfers stand on their surfboards.
16. Body boarders lie down on their stomachs.
17. Some athletes do spinners and El Rollos on their body boards.
18. Another extreme sport is skydiving.
19. Several sites on the Internet give information about extreme sports.
20. Sports equipment is also advertised.

**Lesson
2****Simple Subjects****More Practice****A. Identifying Simple Subjects**

Underline the simple subject in each of the following sentences.

1. The sport of wakeboarding is becoming very popular.
2. The water-skier uses a large board instead of water skis.
3. A powerful boat pulls the wakeboarder across the water.
4. The wakeboarder makes the board do whole and half turns in the water or in the air.
5. Some people consider off-road in-line skating another extreme sport.
6. Great endurance is needed when skating on a beach or over rough ground.
7. Another new sport is snowboarding.
8. The rider of a snowboard stands sideways on the board.
9. An extreme snowboarder goes from the top of a mountain to the bottom using only the snowboard.
10. Falls are very common in this sport.

B. Writing Simple Subjects

Choose one of the following simple subjects to complete each sentence below.

athletes	Cavers	Parachutists	mountaineer
bikes	rafts	stunts	Snowboarders

1. A _____ is a person who climbs the tallest mountains of the world.
2. _____ explore deep underground caverns.
3. White-water _____ must be made of tough material.
4. _____ sometimes choose to jump off high mountains.
5. Mountain _____ must be made strong for riding over rough roads.
6. _____ use special bindings to keep their feet from slipping off the board.
7. Dangerous _____ can cause serious injuries.
8. Well-trained _____ must work out constantly to keep in shape.

Simple Subjects

Application

A. Writing Simple Subjects in Sentences

Use each of these words as the simple subject in a sentence.

1. danger _____

2. climbers _____

3. athletes _____

4. reporters _____

5. safety _____

6. excitement _____

B. Revising

Read this paragraph carefully. In some sentences, the writer has left out some of the simple subjects. When you find a sentence without a simple subject, insert this proofreading symbol \nearrow and write a simple subject in the space above it.

EXAMPLE Extreme ^{sports} \nearrow are not for everyone.

TV has made extreme sports very popular. Now can watch athletes try seemingly impossible stunts. One new sport is called skysurfing. The wears a regular parachute. A specially designed board is strapped to the feet. The jumps out of the plane when it reaches the proper altitude. The is not open yet, so the skysurfer is freefalling through the air at 120 miles per hour. The is moved with the feet so the athlete can perform spins and flips. Finally the opens. The surfer floats safely to the ground.